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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Epigraphic culture in the bay of Naples: Introduction -- Inscriptions and civic life -- Personal inscriptions -- Inscriptions and the economy: texts of production, distribution and ownership -- Inscriptions in art ; Epigraphic culture in the Roman world: Defining epigraphy --

Epigraphic categorization -- Epigraphy in society -- Monuments, not documents -- The emergence of Christian epigraphy -- The geography of epigraphy: a case-study of Tripolitania -- Urban epigraphy -- Epigraphy in the pre-desert interior -- The army camp at Bu Njem -- The life-cycle of inscriptions -- The production and design of inscriptions -- Language choice -- Reading and viewing inscriptions -- Afterlife of inscriptions ; A technical guide to Latin epigraphy -- Finding published inscriptions -- Guide to CIL and other corpora -- Major corpora of Christian inscriptions -- Reading an epigraphic publication -- How to use CIL -- Editorial conventions -- "History from square brackets" -- Abbreviations -- Working with stemmata -- Beyond the book: viewing and recording an inscription -- On site and in museums -- Forgeries -- Dating inscriptions -- Putting the pieces together ; Appendixes: Consular fasti, 298 BC-AD 541 -- Imperial titles, Augustus-Justinian.

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#### Sommario/riassunto

This book advances our understanding of the place of Latin inscriptions in the Roman world. It enables readers, especially those new to the subject, to appreciate both the potential and the limitations of inscriptions as historical source material, by considering the diversity of epigraphic culture in the Roman world and how it has been transmitted to the twenty-first century. The first chapter offers an epigraphic sample drawn from the Bay of Naples, illustrating the dynamic epigraphic culture of that region. The second explores in detail the nature of epigraphic culture in the Roman world, probing the limitations of traditional ways of dividing up inscriptions into different categories, and offering examples of how epigraphic culture developed in different geographical, social and religious contexts. It examines the 'life-cycle' of inscriptions - how they were produced, viewed, reused and destroyed. Finally, the third provides guidance on deciphering inscriptions face-to-face and handling specialist epigraphic publications.

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